IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **CANCEL** claims 5 and 6 without prejudice or disclaimer in accordance with the following:

1. (**PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED**) A recording and/or reproducing apparatus to record and/or reproduce data to and/or from zones of a recording medium, with the recording medium having a spare area for defect management for a group including a plurality of the zones with the spare area being at an end of the group, the apparatus comprising:

a pickup unit to read an information area of the recording medium, the information area having start position information for each of the zones of the group, the start position information including, for each zone, a corresponding start logical sector number; and

a controller to perform defect management using the spare area to replace a defective area in the zones of the group to manage defects at a group level.

2. (**CANCELLED**)

3. (**PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED**) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller accesses the data by determining a logical start position for one of the zones having the data to be accessed according to the corresponding start logical sector number recorded in the start position information read from the information area of the recording medium.

4. (**PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED**) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the controller accesses the data by selecting the zone having the data to be accessed, and determining from the read start position information the one of the start logical sector numbers corresponding to the selected zone.

5-6. (**CANCELLED**)

7-10. (**CANCELLED**)